

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 00494 291911Z

44

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 MC-02

ACDA-05 EUR-12 /085 W
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O P 291810Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7539

INFO SECDEF ISA/DSAA

USCINCEUR ECJ4/7

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 0494

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MO

SUBJECT: FY 77 MILITARY SECURITY ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 17013, RABAT 5502

1. REFTEL (RABAT 5502) PROVIDED SIMILAR INFO FOR FY76/T AS IS REQUESTED BY STATE 17013 FOR FY 77. THE MAJOR ITEMS AND PRIORITIES PROVIDED BY GOM AT THAT TIME HAVE NOT DRASTICALLY CHANGED. BASICALLY, IT APPEARS THAT MOROCCANS INTEND TO USE FY 75, 76, 76T & 77 FMS CREDIT FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF THE RMAF.

2. INFO REQUESTED STATE 17013 FOLLOWS:

A. PARA 6A REFTEL: INDICATIONS ARE THAT GOM WILL ACCEPT AND CONSUMMATE CREDIT AGREEMENT AT \$30M LEVEL IF APPROVED BY CONGRESS.

B. PARA 6B REFTEL: MAJOR ITEMS TO BE PROCURED IN PRIORITY ORDER ARE:

(1) SIX C-130H TRANSPORTS

(2) AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR SYSTEM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 00494 291911Z

(3) F-5 E/F AIR DEFENSE AIRCRAFT

(4) JET TRAINER AIRCRAFT (POSSIBLY ROCKWELL T-2 JET TRAINERS).

(5) CH-47 OR 53 MEDIUM LIFT HELICOPTERS

(6) GCA/APPROACH CONTROL RADARS

C. PARA 6C REFTEL: YES. PROVISION OF CREDIT SUPPORTS THE U.S. APPROVED FORCE GOALS IN CURRENT JSOP.

D. PARA 6D REFTEL: IN VIEW OF HISTORICALLY CLOSE TIES TO U.S. AND A POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE RELATIONS, A VIABLE DEFENSE FORCE IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE DESIRED STABILITY IN THE STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT REGION ON NATO'S SOUTHERN/MEDITERRANEAN FLANK. CONTINUED STABILITY IN MOROCCO HELPS TO INSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN THIS COUNTRY. THIS CREDIT WILL ASSIST IN THE REPLACEMENT OF C-119 TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT WHICH ALREADY BECOMING IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPORT. ADDITIONALLY THE CREDIT WILL ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITY WHICH IS PRESENTLY NON-EXISTENT, BUT URGENTLY REQUIRED.

E. PARA 6E REFTEL: MOROCCO HAS RECEIVED NO GRANT AID MATERIAL SINCE 1969. THE PROPOSED \$900,000 FOR GRANT AID TRAINING IN FY77 WILL NOT PROVIDE FOR ALL OF THE TRAINING WHICH IS REQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FROM THE U.S. THEREFORE, FMS CASES ARE PLANNED FOR ADDITIONAL CONUS TRAINING AND VIRTUALLY ALL IN-COUNTRY TRAINING.

F. PARA 6F REFTEL: SCRUTINY OF THE MAJOR ITEMS LISTED IN PARA 2B INDICATES THE GOM INTENDS TO MODERNIZE ITS AIR FORCE BY THE REPLACEMENT OF ITS TRANSPORT AND TRAINING AIRCRAFT NEARING OBSOLESCENCE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITY. SINCE THERE ARE COMPETITIVE THIRD COUNTRY CANDIDATES FOR SUPPLY OF MANY OF THESE SYSTEMS, THE PROVISION OF FMS CREDIT WILL ALLOW U.S. BUSINESS A BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE FOR THE SALE OF THIS EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL CERTAINLY BE ACQUIRED FROM U.S. OR THIRD-COUNTRY SOURCES. THEREFORE FMS CREDIT WELL SUPPORTS U.S. TRADE OBJECTIVES. THE GOM OBJECTIVES OF MODERNIZING EXISTING FORCES AND INCREASING THEIR DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY IS IN CONSONANCE WITH THE U.S. OBJECTIVE OF SEEING THIS FRIENDLY AND WELL-ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT ENJOY A REASONABLE LEVEL OF MILITARY SECURITY.

G. PARA 6G REFTEL: CREDIT SALES TO ASSIST IN THE ACQUISITION OF THESE DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS WILL RESULT IN A MORE EVEN ARMS BALANCE IN THE REGION, PARTICULARLY IN THE WAKE OF ALGERIAN MILITARY SPENDING AND THE RECENT PROVISION TO ALGERIA OF USSR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RABAT 00494 291911Z

BUILT OFFENSIVE WEAPONS SYSTEMS. SINCE MOROCCAN OBJECTIVES ARE RELATIVELY MODEST AND ARE TO BE ACHIEVED OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD, AN ARMS RACE SHOULD NOT BE STIMULATED AS A RESULT OF THESE SALES.

H. PARA 6H REFTEL: THE STRAIN ON PRESENT GOM INCOME HAS LED IT TO ANTICIPATE CUTBACKS IN MILITARY SPENDING WITH A RESULTANT STRETCH OUT OF THEIR AIR FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. WITH THE PROPOSED LEVEL OF FMS CREDIT THE GOM CAN CONTINUE

TO PURSUE ITS PROGRAM AS PLANNED.

I. PARA 6I REFTTEL: THIS INFO WAS PROVIDED IN RABAT 6279

DTG 301239Z DEC 75. HOWEVER, AN UPDATE WILL BE PROVIDED
BY SEPTTEL.

J. PARA 6J REFTTEL: ACCORDING TO RECENT UNOFFICIAL REPORTS
THE GOM IS NEGOTIATING WITH FRANCE FOR THE PURCHASE OF
MIRAGE F-1C AIRCRAFT, POSSIBLY TO BE DELIVERED BEGINNING
ABOUT 1979; HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT NOW CONSIDERED TO HAVE AN
IMPACT UPON THE EXTENSION OF THE PROPOSED FMS CREDITS FOR
FY 77.

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